

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2-6, 8, 10-12, 16, and 19 are amended herein. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Shimizu, et al. (US Patent No. 6,223,847). Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 14 are not anticipated by the Shimizu patent, in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

1. Amended independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “wherein the marking provides a driver with at least first and second indications, the first indication which is fixedly displayed on the monitor so as to display behind the vehicle concerning the width of the vehicle and a second indication of a prospective path of the vehicle corresponding to the angle of the steered wheels.” Applicants respectfully submit that the Shimizu patent does not teach or suggest a second indication of a prospective path of the vehicle corresponding to the angle of the steered wheels, as recited in independent claim 1.

Shimizu et al. discloses a locus along which a vehicle is automatically steered. Although, Shimizu may measure the angle of the steered wheels, the angle is not used in order to generate a locus corresponding to a guide marking, but instead to perform a control of an

automatic steering. Furthermore Shimizu, et al. simply displays a predetermined locus value, that is calculated based on a stop position.

In contrast, amended independent claim 1 recites, “a second indication of a prospective path of the vehicle corresponding to the angle of the steered wheels.” Shimizu’s predetermined locus used to guide automatic steering does not anticipate displaying the locus according to the current angle of the steered wheels.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that Shimizu does not anticipate the “first indication” recited in independent claim 1. Specifically, amended independent claim 1 recites, “the first indication which is fixedly displayed on the monitor so as to display behind the....” In contrast, 24R and 24 L in Shimizu implement markings associated with a portion of the width of a vehicle. The fixed guide display recited in amended independent claim 1 is also not anticipated by the 24R and 24L markings for vehicle width as in the Shimizu, et al. patent.

Accordingly, amended independent claim 1 is not anticipated by the Shimizu, et al. patent. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

2. Independent claim 14 recites, *inter alia*, “displaying a guide marking that is fixed at a predetermined position with respect to the monitor screen for aiding a driver in parking... wherein the parallel parking is completed by...backing while keeping the steered wheels turned at their maximum angle.” Applicants respectfully submit that the Shimizu patent does not teach or suggest a point where the vehicle reaches when reversing and the steered wheels are turned at their maximum angle, as recited in independent claim 14.

Shimizu, et al. merely discloses 24R and 24 L, which are markings associated with a portion of the width of a vehicle. The vehicle width markings in Shimizu do not anticipate the guide marking recited in independent claim 14. Specifically, Shimizu 24R and 24L do not provide a fixed guide mark implementing a point that the vehicle reaches when reversing and the steered wheels are turned at their maximum angle.

Accordingly, independent claim 14 is not anticipated by the Shimizu, et al. patent. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Myers (U.S. Patent No. 4,214,266) in view of Shimizu, et al. ('847). Applicants respectfully submit that elements recited in independent claims 1, 14, and 19, and the claims directly or indirectly dependent therefrom are patentably distinct from the cited references, taken either alone or in combination.

1. Regarding amended independent claim 1, the Office Action indicates, "Myers '266 fails to explicitly teach marking and prospective path of the vehicle corresponding to the position of the steered wheels." (See, Office Action page 2, ¶ 4). Applicants respectfully submit that for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to amended independent claim 1, the Shimizu patent fails to remedy the Myers' deficiency.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that amended independent claim 1 and claims 2-13, which are directly or indirectly dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited

references either alone or in combination. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

2. Similarly, with regard to independent claim 14, the Office Action only cites Figs. 1, 2A and 3, col. 2, lines 32-35 in the Shimizu patent. (See, Office Action page 5, ¶ 1). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to Shimizu and independent claim 14, independent claim 14 and claims 15-18, which depend thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited references, either alone or in combination. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

3. Moreover, with regard to amended independent claim 19, the Office Action indicates Shimizu '847 teaches markers provided on the vehicle for aligning the vehicle in a center position. Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 19 is patentably distinct from the cited references either alone or in combination.

Amended independent claim 19 recites, *inter alia*, "the prospective path depends on the angle of the steered wheels; and causing the vehicle to proceed on a route when the vehicle is driven so that the guide display is positioned at a center of the route, the route being an image of a way behind the vehicle actually displayed on the monitor." Applicants submit that the Shimizu does not disclose a prospective path based on the angle of the steered wheels.

The Shimizu patent simply discloses a previously determined or calculated path according to a stop position. Applicants respectfully submit that displaying and proceeding along a prospective path that depends on the angle of the steered wheels, as recited in amended

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independent claim 19, is patentably distinct from calculating a route according to a stop position as in Shimizu, et al.

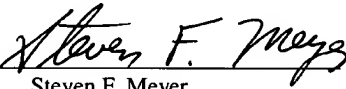
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to Shimizu and independent claim 19, claim 19 is patentably distinct from the cited references, either alone or in combination. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is now believed that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. In view of these remarks, an early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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